

~~SECRET~~NIO/EUROPE  
25 June 1985

DCI/NIO Meeting -- 26 June 1985

1. Europe and SDI

European governments continue to be preoccupied by SDI, with attention currently focused not on the program strategic significance but on the role Europeans can play in research. [redacted]

[redacted] the UK political leadership is still divided but that MOD cadres and the private sector are laying the ground work for British participation in SDI. [redacted] the case for European participation in SDI has been strengthened by the amorphous nature of the French EUREKA proposal and by French intransigence in another European cooperative venture--the European fighter aircraft (EFA). Nevertheless European political leaders will not question EUREKA publicly because to do so would open them to the charge of being anti-European. They will have no such compunction regarding SDI. Still, I believe the US has a good chance of enlisting more European participation if it defines fairly rapidly the projects in which it wants European participation.

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2. Hungary: The Opposition Prepares for Kadar's Passing

In mid-June, [redacted] prestigious dissidents gathered in secret for two days to discuss the issues most likely to surface when the Kadar era ends. The meeting represents the largest confab of its type since the heady days preceding the Revolt of 1956. To us, it appears to be a conscious effort to set an alternative agenda of national priorities to contrast with the half-measures set by the party congress last March.

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This reinvigorated opposition movement appears at first blush to be tough-minded and well organized. The gathering was in preparation for over a year but the authorities apparently learned about it only two days beforehand. The leaders apparently had a role in organizing a call to boycott national elections in June which was signed by leaders of many dissident movements. The group for now is honoring a decision to release transcripts only by consensus and it plans no grandiose manifesto.

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